

**CLAIMS**

1. A bearing arrangement comprising:  
two bearing assemblies both located on the same  
5 axis;  
each bearing assembly comprising two parts in  
contact during their relative rotation;  
at each assembly the contact taking place in a  
respective plane;  
10 characterised in that one of the assemblies allows  
resilient displacement of its contact plane and the  
other of the assemblies is relatively rigid for  
preventing substantial displacement of its contact  
plane.  
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2. A bearing arrangement as claimed in claim 1  
wherein the displacement of the contact plane is  
allowed to take place only in a direction substantially  
parallel to the axis.  
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3. A bearing arrangement comprising:  
two bearing assemblies both located on the same  
axis;  
each bearing assembly comprising two parts in  
25 contact during their relative rotation;  
at each assembly the contact taking place in a  
respective plane;  
characterised in that at least one of the  
assemblies allows resilient displacement of its contact  
30 plane in a direction parallel to the axis.
4. A bearing arrangement as claimed in any of claims  
1 to 3 wherein the two parts of each of the bearing  
assemblies include a female part having a recess or

aperture and a male part acceptable into the recess or aperture.

5. A bearing arrangement as claimed in any one of  
5 claims 1 to 3 wherein, at at least one of the said two assemblies the contact is sliding contact.

6. A bearing arrangement as claimed in claim 5  
wherein the contact is between the female and the male  
10 parts of the bearing assembly or assemblies and is at discrete locations in the plane.

7. A bearing arrangement as claimed in claim 6  
wherein the discrete locations are provided by a non-  
15 circular recess or aperture (e.g. triangular or trihedral) in the female part co-operating with a circular (for example spheroidal or conical) male part, or are provided by a circular (e.g. conical or straight-sided) recess or aperture in the female part  
20 co-operating with a non-circular (e.g. trihedral) male part.

8. A bearing arrangement as claimed in claims 1 to 7  
wherein at least one of the two parts is formed of a  
25 plastics material.

9. A bearing arrangement as claimed in claim 8  
wherein the plastics material is formed as an insert  
within an outer collar.

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10. A bearing arrangement as claimed in any one of  
claims 1 to 3 wherein the contact is rolling contact  
and the parts include a ball race.

11. A bearing arrangement as claimed in any preceding claim wherein the resilient displacement of the plane is provided by a resiliently movable female part.

5 12. A bearing arrangement as claimed in claim 11 wherein the female part includes a planar spring support.

10 13. A measurement probe support having a pivot including a bearing arrangement according to any one of claims 1 to 12.

14. A support for a measurement probe comprising an articulatable wrist providing two axes of rotation for  
15 the probe, at a first axis there being provided a bearing arrangement as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 10, the bearing arrangement being connected to a spindle having an extension extending beyond the bearing arrangement in the direction of the first axis.

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15. A support for a measurement probe as claimed in claim 14 wherein the extension is connected to a further bearing arrangement providing a second axis of rotation for the probe, transverse to the first axis.

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16. A support for a measurement probe as claimed in claim 15 wherein power and signal paths are provided and at least one of the paths crosses a rotary coupling disposed about the first axis.

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17. A support for a measurement probe as claimed in any one of claims 14 to 16 wherein the said bearing arrangement comprises a ball in a recess and the extension extends beyond the ball.